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PRESENT: (continued)

Representatives of specialized agencies:

Mr. DAWSON )	International Labour Organisation
Mr. MAHDAVI )	(ILO)
Mr. ORR	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
Mr. ARNALDO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
Mr. LOPEZ HERRARTE	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (Bank)
Mr. WILLIAMS	International Monetary Fund (Fund)
Mr. COIGNY	World Health Organization (WHO)

Representatives of non-governmental organizations:

Category A:

Mrs. LUSARDI	International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)
Miss SENDER	International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU)
Mr. WOODCOCK	International Co-operative Alliance (ICA)
Mrs. FOX	World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA)

Category B:

Mr. CRUICKSHANK	Inter-American Council of Commerce and Production
Mr. BERNARD	International Commission against Forced Labour Camps
Mr. LONGARZO	International Conference of Catholic Charities
Mr. MANUILA	International Penal Law Association
Mr. GARTLAN	World Union of Women's Catholic Organizations

Technical Assistance Board:

Mr. OWEN	Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board (TAB)
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Secretariat:

Mr. GEORGES-PICOT	Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Departments of Economic Affairs and Social Affairs
Mr. LUKAC	Transport and Communications Division
Mr. VAKIL	Secretary of the Council

ADMISSION TO HEADQUARTERS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS  
(E/2386, E/2397)

Mr. JUNG (India) recalled that the United States representative had stated, at the previous meeting, that his Government was prepared to enter into negotiations with the Secretary-General to settle the point at issue as quickly as possible. In the circumstances, and as the majority of the Council had expressed the wish to have the matter settled in accordance with the Headquarters Agreement in order to enable the representatives of two non-governmental organizations to attend the current session, it would be better to discontinue the discussion for the time being. He therefore proposed formally that the Council should adjourn its discussion of the matter in order to create a favourable atmosphere for immediate negotiations.

Mr. BIRECKI (Poland) wished to explain the position of his delegation which had tabled a draft resolution at the previous meeting.

In view of the feelings which the Indian representative had just expressed on behalf of the majority of the Council, his delegation would not press for a vote on its draft resolution. It hoped that the negotiations would begin without delay and would soon lead to a satisfactory result.

The PRESIDENT said that, as there was no objection, he considered the Indian delegation's motion of adjournment to be unanimously approved.

It was so decided.

EXPANDED PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE (E/2394, E/2395)

Mr. de SEYNES (Chairman of the Technical Assistance Committee) remarked that he had little to add to the two reports before the Council.

The reports were the result of the work of the TAC Working Party and of the conclusions regarding the local expenses to be borne by governments and submitted by the Technical Assistance Board.

The question of the local costs to be borne by governments (E/2395) had often been placed on the agenda of the TAC. As the proposed solution had apparently been equally disliked by the groups of delegations which had adopted extreme positions, he tended to think that it contained the elements of an acceptable solution.

The second document submitted for the Council's consideration (E/2394) was primarily a report to precede the discussions which would be held at the forthcoming session of the TAC and at the Council's sixteenth session.

He wished to draw the attention of the members of the Council particularly to the statement of the Executive Chairman of the TAB. The statement (E/2394, paragraph 7) would certainly cause some concern in the Council. At that time the total estimated costs for 1953 of the submissions had apparently amounted to some \$43 million. The applications received had been considered valid and worthy of consideration by a group of consultants whom the Executive Chairman of the TAB had requested to review the programmes. As compared with requests totalling \$43 million, the assets for 1953 did not exceed a maximum of \$25 million.

The Committee accordingly reiterated a hope which had already been expressed, and stressed the desirability of studying the possibility of the long-term planning of technical assistance projects. The Committee had requested such a study from the Technical Assistance Board.

The Committee had also reaffirmed the hope that the Technical Assistance Conference should be held earlier in order to enable the administrative services to know in time the amount on which they could count.

The substantial financial gap mentioned in the report of the TAC was obviously beyond the scope and possibilities of the Committee; that should be a matter of constant reflection for all governments, particularly for those which had not yet made a contribution to the Programme.

The reports before the Council contained the text of resolution A, adopted by the TAC, and of draft resolution B, which the Committee had decided to submit to the Council for its consideration.

Mr. WOULBROUN (Belgium) pointed out that the TAC and its Working Party had carefully considered the questions in the two reports before the Council. He then gave the following outline of the current financial situation.

Expenditure during the first financial year of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance had been in the nature of \$6 million. The total amount of contributions offered for 1953 had amounted to \$21,278,000. In addition, the sum of \$25,300,000 consisting of the amount of the pledges plus the balance from the previous financial year, was available for the projects to be initiated in 1953.

The financial problems were partly due to the rapid progress of the Programme and partly to the difficulties which the TAB experienced in drawing up plans of operation when it did not know exactly how much credit would be available to it because of the delay in pledging contributions.

If integrated development programmes were to be drawn up, it was important to ensure more co-ordinated action than in the past by the participating agencies and to relieve the cumbersome administrative machinery by trying to reduce as far as possible the high administrative costs incurred by a substantial budget. The resolutions adopted by the TAC and the draft resolution submitted to the Council were intended to lessen some of those difficulties.

In connexion with local costs and recalling the French representative's statements, he stressed that the Belgian delegation had directed its main efforts to facilitating the adoption of a compromise solution in the Technical Assistance Committee. It would have preferred to see the governments of the recipient countries contributing larger amounts towards local costs, as in that way more money would be available. At all events, the Belgian delegation wholeheartedly supported the proposals for paying the living costs of the experts.

Passing to the future financing of the Programmes, he pointed out that, in order to avoid in 1954 some of the difficulties confronting it in 1953, the Council should recognize the need to draw up financial estimates covering a period exceeding one year.

As many projects begun in 1953 would normally have to be continued in 1954, the possibility of initiating new programmes would be seriously affected. As the \$25 million anticipated would not be available, the solution would be to request the governments to increase their contributions.

Only when the TAB had information on the projects and only after it had passed that information to the TAC would it be possible to study the matter more closely.

If the fourth Technical Assistance Conference was to be convened in October and if it was to be successful, it was important to give immediate consideration to the various aspects of the matter.

After paying a tribute to Mr. de Seynes, whose leadership of the TAC had facilitated ~~certain compromises under circumstances often of a difficult nature~~, he insisted that the Expanded Programme, which was still only an experiment, should be continued despite ~~current difficulties and flaws which could not be remedied~~. It must never be forgotten that the experiment was the result of a joint effort by the United Nations and many specialized agencies and that everything should be done to ensure its success.

Mr. LOPEZ (Philippines) subscribed to the tribute paid to the Chairman of the Technical Assistance Committee by the Belgian representative. It was largely due to the personal initiative of Mr. de Seynes that the Working Party and the TAC had been able to reach agreement on certain decisions. It should be emphasized that the solutions adopted were compromise solutions. Each of the delegations concerned had limited its demands and the remarkable co-operative effort had made it possible to establish a balance, which the existence of many different trends of opinion had made difficult. It was to be hoped that the governments and specialized

agencies would act on similar principles and that the technical assistance operations would proceed in an atmosphere of goodwill and mutual confidence, which would contribute to the fulfilment of one of the noblest assignments of the United Nations.

Mr. BORIS (France) confined himself to a few comments on two specific points: costs in local currency and co-ordination of the activities of the organizations operating the Expanded Programme.

The first matter was delicate; it had been discussed many times without any positive result. The French delegation had accepted a compromise for the sake of agreement, but the solution adopted seemed disappointing. For the first time, after two years of smooth operation, the Expanded Programme was in a critical situation. It had been necessary to abandon in turn several of the objectives established at the beginning. The funds available had just been cut by \$200,000 at a time when it might have been hoped that the moment of decisive recovery had come. The facts were known: requests for assistance totalling \$43 million had been submitted; to cover them, approximately \$25 million were available. The Chairman of the TAB had transmitted the files of requests to a group of highly qualified persons whose formal opinion was that all the proposed programmes deserved to have the assistance requested. It would therefore be impossible to select any given project unless by sacrificing others of equal interest. The situation seemed strange, if not unreal, and it was unlikely to be solved by appealing to generosity. The main difficulty arose from the initial mistakes: the absence of specific rules had automatically led to inequality and confusion. It was to be hoped that the decisions adopted would prove useful in that connexion and make it possible to arrest an unfortunate development. It was also to be hoped that some of the recipient countries would be less voluble about their rights and agree to make an additional effort. It might be advisable to reserve favourable treatment for those which showed their goodwill in that way. If there were many of them, the basic nature of technical assistance would be transformed and the problem would thereby assume a different aspect.

The French delegation had welcomed the steps taken in 1952 to co-ordinate activities, particularly the appointment of the Executive Chairman of the TAB, the decision to refer all projects to that body for prior consideration, the development of the resident representative system and the encouragement given to preparing integrated country programmes of technical assistance. It was disappointing to note a certain lack of enthusiasm one year later. A certain reticence could be sensed which might be a prelude to opposition. The resolution which the Executive Board of the WHO had adopted in February 1953 seemed to be rather significant in that respect. As the matter was before the Economic and Social Council, he recalled the main points of the French Government's conception of the Expanded Programme:

The Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance was financed by a special fund derived from voluntary contributions and administered by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly; no decision taken by those organs could be contested by a participating agency, provided that such a decision was not contrary to the agency's statute.

The decisions so far adopted were in no way contrary to the statutory provisions of the participating agencies. The French Government had supported the TAC's efforts to promote the establishment of co-ordinated technical assistance programmes at the national level. The methods for action defined in 1952 should be applied and French representatives to the United Nations and to the specialized agencies would formally oppose any attempt to depart from the principles adopted at that time. Moreover, if a new orientation were introduced and if the Expanded Programme ceased to be a co-ordinated programme and became a mere juxtaposition of individual projects, the French Government might be constrained to take a less active interest in technical assistance and to modify the amount and methods of its contribution accordingly. France remained faithful to the spirit of the original decisions of 1949. The French delegation supported the draft resolution in document E/2395.

Nevertheless, resolutions were not enough. No text had ever been drafted so clearly that there could be no possible confusion. The important thing was the will of the participants to co-operate. In that connexion, the French delegation wished to draw the Council's attention to the advantage of certain practical possibilities which might promote the effective co-ordination of



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activities. In the existing circumstances, daily co-operation between the participating agencies and the Executive Chairman of the TAB seemed to be impossible. It would facilitate matters if the TAB and the TAA were to settle at Geneva. The ILO, WHO, ITU and WHO already had their headquarters in that city; UNESCO was installed in Paris and FAO in Rome. The principal organs concerned were therefore gathered together in the same region and the number of their contacts was increasing. The ICAC alone remained far from that centre of technical assistance but the special nature of its activities rendered the problem of co-operation less serious in its case. That solution would have the added advantage of reducing the high costs now entailed by the frequent journeys caused by the geographical distribution of the headquarters of various agencies. It would also be possible to consider the organization of joint administrative services for the specialized agencies with headquarters at Geneva. The French delegation would make no official proposal on the matter, but thought that its suggestion was worthy of consideration.

His delegation had also suggested the establishment of an administrative and financial sub-committee to supervise the application by the participating agencies of the Council's administrative directives. He would be glad to hear delegations' views on the matter.

Mr. MEADE (United Kingdom) noted with satisfaction that a method had been found to improve the system of the distribution and payment of local costs; he hoped that no more disagreement would arise in that connexion.

His delegation regretted that the TAB had not submitted recommendations on the presentation of reports. That question was extremely important, since the reports should enable governments to follow the development of programmes. The main question was to standardize presentation and accounting. It was to be hoped that the system adopted would be simple and would require a bare minimum of documents and formulae.

He was aware of the difficulties arising from the financing of the long-term programmes and considered that the question called for more detailed study, as the TAC had stated in its report. He could not at present give any assurance

that his Government would be able to say in advance what its contributions for future years would be, but any estimates which the TAB might be able to draw up would certainly be extremely useful, especially if particular attention was paid to projects requiring over a year for their implementation.

With regard to the future orientation of the Expanded Programme, the United Kingdom delegation was afraid that the TAC resolution might have prejudged somewhat the conclusions of the study which the TAB had been asked to prepare on certain questions of organization. The programme had been in operation for nearly three years, but it was an unprecedented enterprise and its results could not be foreseen. That being so, it was not surprising that the methods used should need revision from time to time, in the light of the experience acquired. At the outset, the available funds had exceeded the amount of requests. It had then proved necessary, in the interests of efficiency, to achieve greater co-ordination at all levels and the TAB had been reorganized in 1952. Emphasis had then been laid on projects which seemed the most likely to promote the economic development of countries. The existing financial conditions merely accentuated the need for such a policy.

A reduction of administrative costs might be obtained by decentralizing activities and entrusting the bulk of responsibility to the resident representatives, who were obviously better able to assume it than representatives at headquarters. That, however, was only one aspect of the general problem of organization which the TAB had to solve in order to control the programme and administer it as economically as possible. The TAB should bear in mind that the Expanded Programme was a whole, as distinct from the individual activities of each specialized agency, but that unity was more important in action than in administrative details; it would be absurd to expend on organizational details efforts which would be better used elsewhere and to spend the strictly-limited funds for those purposes.

The United Kingdom delegation noted with satisfaction that consultations between the Executive Chairman of the TAB and the Directors-General of the participating agencies had been planned for the near future. It was particularly important for the TAB to submit its recommendations on the organization of the programme to the next session of the Council, not because

there was any question of a basic reorganization but because it would be helpful to know the views of specialists on any possible improvement of the existing methods.

Mr. TANGE (Australia) wished to draw the Council's attention to some matters to which his Government attached considerable importance.

The Australian delegation welcomed the Council's decision to appoint an Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board. The decision was a wise one, since such large budgetary expenditure should be controlled by a central administrative body which would be able to ensure the co-ordination and rational execution of plans.

In the light of the experience acquired in the past three years with regard to the mobilization of technical assistance resources, the Australian delegation thought, firstly, that greater emphasis should be given to the development of more closely co-ordinated programmes and, secondly, that the geographical distribution of assistance should be improved.

In connexion with the first point, to leave it to the various agencies to develop isolated programmes would not be the wisest way of contributing to the economic development of under-developed countries. The governments of those countries themselves were, generally speaking, the best judges of the type of assistance they required in a co-ordinated programme. In the interests of the beneficiary countries, therefore, co-ordination should begin at the national level. Moreover, that procedure would be advantageous to the contributor countries, since it would be of the greatest value to them to have accurate information on the funds required for the execution of technical assistance projects in an international co-ordinated programme. Such information would be no less valuable in arousing the interest of the public and of private agencies in technical assistance. Experience had shown that it was easier to assure specific types of technical assistance if the institutions and bodies concerned could be given precise information on what had already been done in a given country.

The various technical assistance programmes should be closely integrated for that purpose; that result could not be achieved without exchanging information on the programmes undertaken in various countries. It was obvious

that, in the absence of such a solution, it would be impossible to implement administrative decisions on a given agency or country. One of the TAB's most important tasks should therefore consist in studying closely the development of each beneficiary country and preparing periodic surveys on which its directives to its resident representatives and the agencies concerned would be based.

The second factor to which more importance should be attached was the improvement of the geographical distribution of technical assistance. By ensuring a more equitable distribution of assistance to various countries and a better co-ordination of projects undertaken under the Expanded Programme, the TAB would be more likely to ensure the success of an undertaking in which the international community was deeply interested. The Australian delegation would therefore support the resolution in paragraph 10 of the Technical Assistance Committee's report (E/2394).

The Australian delegation had already, in the TAC, expressed its concern over the fact that the participating agencies had undertaken excessive commitments in 1952. The position had become worse since then, for in November 1952 the participating agencies had had unfulfilled requests totalling \$43,000,000 and the TAB had been obliged to request them to limit their programmes to \$25,300,000.

The Australian delegation was fully aware that all commitments were made "subject to the availability of funds", but regretted that the participating agencies had so greatly exceeded the limits of the funds on which they could normally rely. While recognizing the difficulties which an international administrator necessarily met with in budgeting expenditure within the artificial confines of a financial year, he thought that the participating agencies should bear certain fundamental principles in mind. In making commitments for 1954, for example, they should assume that governments would contribute to the Expanded Programme a sum not greater than that contributed in 1953; thus, they should not count on obtaining more than a maximum of \$20,000,000 for the execution of their programmes. He would like to know the views of the Executive Chairman and the participating agencies on that point.

With regard to the question of local costs, he welcomed the recommendations of the TAC for a revision of the method of calculation and payment of the obligations of recipient governments in respect of the living costs of experts. Although his delegation would have preferred a simplification, too, of the method of calculating the obligations of governments in respect of fellowships, it would unreservedly support the Technical Assistance Committee's recommendations on local costs.

Nevertheless, he wished to draw the Council's attention to a factor which must be taken into account. It must be borne in mind that the obligations assumed by recipient governments were not confined to the living costs of experts. When a government decided to undertake to carry out a development plan, it was fundamentally responsible for the administration and financing of the plan. The international assistance it received was above all directed to the removal of certain shortages, particularly that of skilled manpower. As an example, he quoted the case of India, which hoped to increase the number of maternity and child welfare centres from 38 to 326 in 1954, and explained that in executing the project the Indian authorities would be obliged to undertake any number of different tasks, such as training nurses and midwives, establishing special schools, developing school health services, and providing new buildings and transport. Although the expenses involved in carrying out those preliminary programmes over a period of two years amounted to nearly \$4,000,000, the Local Government could expect to receive only \$6,000 in 1953 and \$12,500 in 1954 from the Expanded Programme. Many similar examples could be given; he mentioned the programmes undertaken, with the assistance of WHO, in the Philippines, Japan, Israel, Afghanistan and Indonesia, in all of which countries the funds contributed by the participating agency were much less than the commitments of the national authorities themselves. The wishes of the recipient governments should therefore be sympathetically considered in determining the obligations they were to assume for local costs in connexion with the programmes of experts.

The funds voluntarily contributed by governments could not exceed certain limits, which were usually in proportion to the value of the available technical facilities. Without underestimating the value of the French representative's remarks on the subject, it might be said that the quality of the programmes could be little improved by minor adjustments in the methods of financing local costs.

With regard to the proposed reporting system, it was to be hoped that future reports would contain more precise information on pledges and payments of contributions, actual expenditures from individual contributions, expenditures on individual countries in regional grouping, and expenditure by regions and countries, according to the type of programme.

The Australian delegation would comment on the resolutions of the Executive Board of the WHO when the TAC considered them in detail. For the time being, he would confine himself to expressing his Government's hope that the problems raised by WHO would be solved by means of an integration of programmes, and not by any action which might hamper the co-ordinating role of the TAB.

As for possible co-ordination arrangements, he thought that a distinction should be drawn between practical co-ordination on the spot and in the TAB, and theoretical co-ordination in the capitals of the States concerned and in the TAC. It was to be hoped that co-ordination in the capitals would lead to greater consistency between the decisions of the specialized agencies and those of United Nations organs.

Nevertheless, certain functions would remain within the competence of the Council and the TAB, such as the production of coherent national programmes, the distribution of assistance among countries and regions, the supervision of the total commitments of participating agencies and the development of a more satisfactory reporting system.

The Australian delegation approved the resolutions adopted by the TAC and would vote for the draft resolution before the Council.



Mr. MURDEN (United States of America) noted with satisfaction that the TAC had reaffirmed the principle that recipient governments should make a substantial contribution to the cost of technical assistance in local currency or in kind, thereby confirming the truly co-operative character of the Expanded Programme.

The United States delegation supported draft resolution B submitted by the TAC (E/2395); it approved the Committee's report and its resolution on the co-ordination and administration of the Programme (E/2394). The object of the resolution was not to introduce new procedure but to stress the importance of the procedure already in use. The TAC also requested the Executive Chairman of the TAB to undertake, in consultation with the participating agencies, a study of the co-ordinated technical assistance programmes at the country level and of the responsibilities of resident representatives. His delegation had no preconceived ideas on those important issues and would await with interest the conclusions of the proposed studies.

In conclusion, he paid a tribute to the excellent work done by Mr. de Seyne as Chairman of the TAC.

Mr. EL TANAMLI (Egypt) wished to comment briefly on three specific points.

Firstly, he understood that the statement of government commitments given in the TAC report showed the position at a date considerably earlier than that of the publication of the report. Since then, additional pledges had been forthcoming. They should perhaps be mentioned in an addendum, so that the report ought not leave such a pessimistic impression. In any case, his delegation hoped that the situation would improve and that all the governments concerned would make the necessary efforts to allow the Programme to be expanded still further.

In connexion with local costs, he had hoped that it would be possible to find a final solution to the question of fellowships. For the sake of agreement, he had not pressed that issue and had supported the compromise proposal finally adopted by the TAC.



particularly interested in surveys of the social situation, including public health, social security, housing, employment, vocational training and technical education. Trade unionists should be represented on the missions that were to study those questions. The ICFTU further recommended that fellowships should be granted to workers and technicians from the under-developed countries to enable them to undergo periods of industrial training in the more advanced countries. The undertakings selected for that purpose should be those which maintained contractual relations with the free trade unions. The ICFTU could be of considerable assistance with regard to technical education and vocational training.

She thought that it would be worth while to send questionnaires on that subject to countries receiving technical assistance. She hoped that the suggestions put forward by the free trade unions would be carefully considered by the Council and that there could be profitable co-operation between the bodies responsible for administering technical assistance and the ICFTU.

The main objective was to raise the standard of living of the peoples of the under-developed countries and consequently the problem of agricultural production must not be overlooked in any area where consumption was below the pre-war level. The funds available were, generally speaking, inadequate. The ICFTU hoped that, in the interests of peace, it would be possible by an international effort to produce the necessary funds.

The co-operation of the governments and peoples of the under-developed countries was essential. Governments must realize that it was imperative to associate the workers in their efforts. Poverty and malnutrition were a challenge to the whole free world and the existence of abnormally low standards of life was a threat to world peace and stability. The free trade unions were prepared to participate fully in any United Nations action in that field.

Mrs. FOX (World Federation of United Nations Associations) said that at its seventh plenary assembly the WFUNA had voiced its realization of the vital importance and high promise of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. The WFUNA hoped that all governments would contribute as generously as possible to the Programme; its national associations would urge their respective governments to do so.

The WFUNA was convinced that technical assistance should be made available through the United Nations and the specialized agencies rather than through bilateral agreements. Where such agreements had been concluded it was to be hoped that the United Nations would take the necessary steps to promote close co-ordination between the Expanded Programme and the bilateral programmes of technical assistance.

The WFUNA had two suggestions to make with a view to increasing the prestige of the Expanded Programme among the general public. In the first place, the title of the Programme could be improved. Since the Programme involved assistance in social service, health and education just as much as economic assistance, it was incorrect to speak only of technical assistance for the "economic development" of the "under-developed countries". Furthermore, the expression "under-developed countries" was unsatisfactory from the point of view both of psychology and semantics. It was doubtful whether any country could claim that it was not "under-developed" in some respect. The WFUNA thought that it would be better to change the present title of the programme to "United Nations Technical Assistance Programme for Economic Development and Social Advancement" or to call it simply "United Nations Technical Assistance Programme".

Secondly, the WFUNA thought that wide publicity should be given to the Expanded Programme in order to arouse the interest of people throughout the world. She welcomed the first step that had been taken by establishing a post of Information Officer in the TAB; that official had already performed very useful work. The WFUNA suggested that it might be worth considering the possibility of publishing a technical assistance yearbook, a periodical bulletin containing an account of the activities of the various missions, and illustrated booklets. The national associations of the WFUNA were prepared to help in translating such documents into the language of their own countries.

Mr. CHA (China) congratulated the Chairman of TAC, whose untiring work and whose competence had enabled TAC and its Working Party to do useful work and to submit two excellent reports to the Council (E/2394, E/2395).

The first document (E/2394) contained the text of a resolution which TAC had adopted after considering the report of the Executive Director of TAB, and which referred inter alia to the responsibilities of the resident representatives. Its adoption had been made possible by the conciliatory attitude of the United States delegation. His delegation had voted for it without siding either with TAB or with the specialized agencies, believing that the responsibilities of the resident representatives and the field representatives of the participating agencies must be clearly delimited. Since sufficient information to form an opinion was not yet available, it would seem that TAC had decided wisely in paragraph 2 of the operative part of its resolution. His delegation also approved the recommendation to the Executive Chairman of TAB to continue the practice of having resident representatives submit comments to him on proposed projects in their countries. The resident representatives had of course already submitted comments, which TAB had undoubtedly given particular attention, but it would do no harm to make it clear that that procedure should form part of their normal responsibilities. It might perhaps be possible also to consider inviting recipient governments to submit their comments, which might give TAB valuable information.

His delegation noted that WHO alone had stated its views on the subject of co-ordination in the form of resolutions adopted by its Executive Board. It would be useful if the other specialized agencies would submit their comments so that the Council could make amore thorough study of the problems involved.

With regard to the future financing of programmes, although it would be difficult for most governments to induce their parliaments to open credits for periods of more than a year, his delegation was glad that TAC had decided to request its Working Party to study the feasibility of working out estimates for the Expanded Technical Assistance Programme on a basis longer than a one-year period. It also approved the recommendation that the next pledging conference should be held as soon as possible.

The second document (E/2395) contained a TAC resolution and a draft resolution for adoption by the Council. With regard to the TAC resolution his delegation would remind the Council that it had always defended the principle of matching, i.e. the principle that recipient governments should bear part of the cost of technical assistance in local currency or in kind. It was therefore gratified to note that TAC had reaffirmed that principle and decided that the standard rate of contribution to the local living costs of experts would be 50 per cent of the TAB subsistence rate for the country concerned. Furthermore, most governments would certainly welcome TAC's decision that recipient governments could make a lump sum payment in respect of all experts employed under all programmes in their respective countries.

It was also gratifying to note TAC's decision that in cases of extreme hardship general waivers might be granted by the Executive Chairman of TAB to cover all programmes in the recipient country for limited periods. That provision would make it easier to implement programmes in countries which were in the throes of such difficulties that they were really incapable of contributing to the local costs.

With regard to the provisions for the financing of the external travel costs of fellows and scholars, he was glad to note that there would be no change in the existing system. Although very many governments could certainly contribute to financing training scholarships, as TAB had proposed, some of them were unable to do so. TAC's decision would make it easier to furnish technical assistance to those governments.

His delegation would vote for the draft resolution which TAC had submitted to the Council.

Mr. OWEN (Executive Chairman of the TAB) said that TAB and the participating agencies would pay particular attention to all the observations put forward by the members of the Council; all the points raised would be studied by TAB and dealt with in its next report to the Council.

In reply to the representative of Australia, he pointed out that it was very difficult to arrange programmes without knowing the amount of credits which would be available for the coming year. There would be less difficulty if the pledging conference was held well before the financial year during which the funds pledged were to be used. At present, programmes had to be arranged on a hypothetical basis. In any event, he could assure the Australian representative that the question he had raised had not been neglected in his consultations with the participating organizations concerning programmes for 1954. Those organizations had been invited to submit to TAB projects based on requests received or expected, but with due regard also to the need to keep within certain budgetary limits estimated on the basis of the funds obtained in previous years. Those programmes would be examined by the TAB, which would communicate its conclusions to TAC before the Council's sixteenth session. It would then be possible to determine the approximate amount of the necessary funds, but the programmes could not be finally arranged before the pledging conference. Be that as it may, it was already known that the requests for technical assistance were considerably in excess of the fund which would be available for 1953 and 1954. In that connexion, it must be emphasized that the technical capacity of the participating organizations was far greater than the funds available. For the time being, therefore, all that could be done was to undertake projects of modest dimensions and hope that one day contributions to the Expanded Programme would make it possible to meet all requests from governments.

The PRESIDENT requested the Council to vote on the resolution submitted by TAC.

The draft resolution was adopted by 16 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT, on behalf of the Council, thanked the Chairman of TAC and the Executive Chairman of TAB.

REPORT OF THE TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (sixth session):  
REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/2402)

The PRESIDENT requested the Council to vote on the nine draft resolutions recommended by the Economic Committee for adoption. Argentina had submitted an amendment (E/L.492) to draft resolution H.

Draft resolution A

Draft resolution A was adopted by 15 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Draft resolution B

Mr. SAKSIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked for a separate vote on sub-paragraph (11) of the operative part, which had certain budgetary implications.

Sub-paragraph (11) was adopted by 16 votes to 2.

Draft resolution B was adopted by 16 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Draft resolution C

Draft resolution C was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Draft resolution D

The PRESIDENT drew the attention of the Council members to the note concerning that draft resolution (E/2402, page 13).

Mr. GARCIA OLANO (Argentina) said that he would vote the more readily in favour of draft resolution D in that the Economic Committee had deleted paragraph 7 of the operative part, which would have made it impossible to make reservations on signing the protocol. In view of the system of road signs and signals adopted in Argentina, that country would be compelled to make reservations.

Draft resolution D was adopted by 16 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Draft resolution E

The PRESIDENT pointed out that the draft amended annex 3 to the Convention on Road Traffic had been incorporated in the resolution.

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Mr. SAKSIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled that his delegation had raised a number of objections both in the Transport and Communication Commission and in the Economic Committee, and had voted against the draft resolution. THE USSR considered that the licensing of motor vehicle drivers was a matter essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of States, and that a United Nations organ had no authority to impose rules on the subject.

Draft resolution E was adopted by 16 votes to 2.

Draft resolution F

Mr. STIBRAVY (United States of America) drew the Council's attention to the additional cost involved in holding the conference in Geneva, which would vary according as it was held in January or August. He hoped that it would be possible to hold the conference in August, and to reduce the estimated cost still further; the question would be examined by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The United States delegation hoped that the Secretary-General would invite the Governments of all the States listed in document E/CN.2/133.

Mr. WOULHROUN (Belgium) asked for separate vote on sub-paragraph (g) of the operative part.

Sub-paragraph (g) was adopted by 14 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

Draft resolution F was adopted by 15 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Mr. CHA (China) said that his delegation had abstained because it was opposed in principle to holding conferences at Geneva. Out of deference to the will of the majority, however, it had not voted against the draft resolution.

Draft resolution G

The draft resolution was adopted by 16 votes to 0.

Draft resolution H

Mr. NISMAN (Sweden) pointed out that the amendment submitted by Argentina raised a new aspect of the problem; the Swedish delegation therefore



requested that voting should be postponed until the next day, in order that it might have time to study the amendment.

The motion for postponement was adopted.

Draft resolution I

Mr. SAKSIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked if the Secretariat could give the Council any information on the financial implications of the draft resolution. In the absence of such information, the USSR delegation would be obliged to vote against it.

Mr. LUKAC (Secretariat) replied that the Secretariat had submitted a statement, document E/2363/Add.1, on the financial implications of the draft resolutions submitted by the Transport and Communications Commission. Furthermore, it should not be forgotten that under resolution 533 C (VI) of the General Assembly, the Council would consider the priority and financial implications of the proposed new projects at its next session.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 16 votes to 2.

The meeting rose at 9.55 p.m.

13/4 p.m.